

REMARKS

With entry of the present amendment, claims 18-23 and 26-30 are pending.
Claims 24 and 25 are canceled.

Claims 18-23 and 26-30 are allowed.

Entry of this amendment is requested.

Pending Rejection and Objection

Claims 24-25, which are directed to a tagged erythropoietin glycoprotein product useful in the process of claim 18, are rejected as being unpatentable over Bill et al., Biochim Biophys Acta (1995) 1261:35-43 ("Bill et al") in view of WO 99/07735. Claim 24 is additionally objected to as not complying with the sequence rules. The rejection and objection are overcome by the cancellation of claims 24-25 from this application.

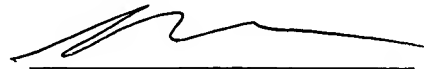
CONCLUSION

The foregoing amendment is fully responsive to the Final Office Action issued February 17, 2006. With the cancellation of claims 24-25, allowed claims 18-23 and 26-30 should be permitted to issue promptly.

If the Examiner believes there are other issues that can be resolved by telephone interview, or that there are any informalities remaining in the application which may be corrected by Examiner's Amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney is respectfully solicited.

Applicants believe that no fee is due with this communication. However, should the Patent Office determine that a fee is owed, or a credit is due to applicant, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any required fees, including any extension of time and/or excess claim fees, or credit any overpayment, to applicant's Deposit Account 08-2525 as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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